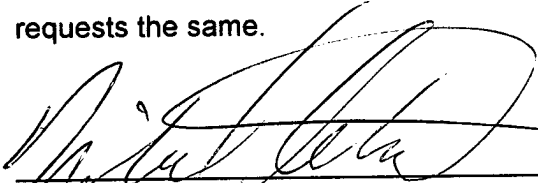


Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Believing the claims to be in condition for allowance, the applicant respectfully requests the same.

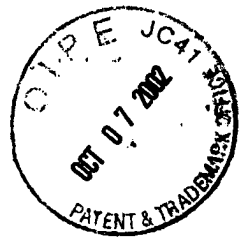


September 30, 2002

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

Please amend claims 6 and 11 as follows:

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6. (Once Amended) A printed circuit board comprising:

at least three layers of material, such that two of the layers of material are electrically conductive and the third layer is an electrical insulator and wherein the insulating layer is disposed between the conductive layers; and

at least one conductive stake inserted into the printed circuit board for forming a via or electrically connecting foils from the two conductive layers together;

wherein the conductive stake has conductive substantially straight and longitudinal fins attached along a length of the conductive stake, and is inserted such that at least one of said substantially straight and longitudinal conductive fins makes contact with the foils for forming the via.

11. (Once Amended) A printed board comprising:

at least four conductive layers of material; and

at least two conductive stakes inserted into a through hole of the printed circuit board for forming at least two different vias, one via electrically connecting together foils from two of the four conductive layers and the other via electrically connecting together foils from the remaining two of the four conductive layers;

wherein at least one conductive stake has conductive substantially straight and longitudinal fins attached along a length of the conductive stake, and is inserted such that at least one of said substantially straight and longitudinal conductive fins makes contact with foils from two of the four conductive layers.